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ZA MOMENT OF TRUTH FOR Z10

BLACKBERRY'S NEW PHONE FINALLY GOES ON SALE PAGE 6

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Drinkin' whisky and rye

Straight shooters. Inaugural festival raising money for Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame and Museum

SHANE GIBSON
shane.gibson@metronews.ca

With more than 100 whiskies to sample and a menu of mouth-watering whisky-inspired food to go along with it, the Winnipeg Whisky Festival promises to put festival-goers in high spirits.

Tickets for the celebration of all things whisky don't come cheap — $225 gets you in and includes all the tastings and a buffet created by Fairmont Winnipeg's executive chef Jeremy Langemann. But organizers say connoisseurs are lining up to take a shot at the first-time festival.

"We're looking for a first-class, high-end event," explained Rick Brownlee, from the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame, which benefits from the money brought in at the festival.

"If you're a whisky drinker, and you don't think anything about dropping $100 for a bottle of single malt, then this is a good deal."

Brownlee said roughly 200 tickets have already been sold for the festival and a run of special $300 VIP tickets that include admission into seminars with master distillers and brand ambassadors have sold out.

All money raised will be used to help pay for programming and expenses at the hall of fame's new exhibit facility at 145 Pacific Ave.

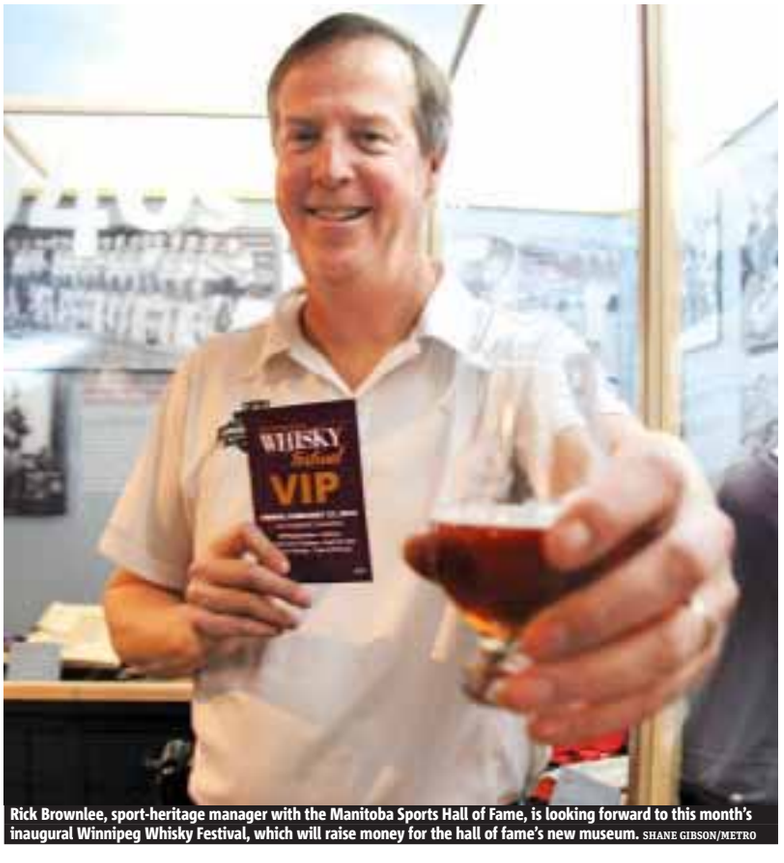
Because of the connection to the hall of fame, Brownlee said inducted members will be on hand throughout the evening to meet and greet attendees.

"A unique aspect is going to be the Hall of Fame Lounge," he said. "You can get the chance to talk to Susan Auch about her silver medal from Lillehammer."

The Winnipeg Whisky Festival runs Feb. 22 at the Fairmont Hotel. Tickets and more information can be found at winnipegwhiskyfestival.com.

Local connoisseurs

Brownlee said Manitoba is the highest consumer of whisky per capita in all of Canada.



Rick Brownlee, sport-heritage manager with the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame, is looking forward to this month's inaugural Winnipeg Whisky Festival, which will raise money for the hall of fame's new museum. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Want another reason to hate Facebook?

Click a button, deliver anxiety PAGE 5

Star Wars: Episode VII

Our columnist has hope for J.J. Abram's take on the series. Here's to hoping he leaves us with some answers — before the final episode PAGE 7

Jets back in win column

Home fans leave happy after OT win PAGE 14

Not-quite-summer fun

Final what? Mr. who? If you need a break, hit up one of these spring break getaways PAGE 10

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Homicide

Arrest made in 2011 NYE shooting

After an investigation that stretched on for more than a year, Winnipeg police have a man in custody in connection to the last homicide of 2011.

Michael Warren Sinclair, 36, became the year's 39th homicide victim after he and a 30-year-old woman were shot while at a home in the 600 block of Selkirk Avenue on New Year's Eve.

Sinclair was taken to hospital in critical condition but later died, while the woman — reportedly shot in the eye — survived the attack.

Members of the Homicide Unit arrested Clayton Campeau, 33, Monday. Campeau is charged with second-degree murder and attempted murder and is in custody. METRO

Tuxedo

No foul play in woman's death

An autopsy has ruled out foul play in the death of a woman whose body was found outside a Tuxedo-area housing complex Saturday.

Members of the Homicide Unit had investigated after the 33-year-old woman was found dead in the 200 block of Doncaster Street around 9:50 a.m.

Police will not release the woman's name. METRO

Suspects sought

La Salle robbed

Police are looking for two men after the La Salle Hotel was robbed late Monday.

Officers were called to the hotel in the 300 block of Nairn Avenue around 11:35 p.m. after two men with their identities concealed demanded and made off with an undisclosed amount of cash from the till. METRO

Flood hits Alzheimer Society office on eve of fundraising gala

Parts of the ceiling, which caved in, are seen on the floor. FACEBOOK

Officials with the Winnipeg office of the Alzheimer Society are scrambling to save hundreds of auction items for their biggest fundraising event on Thursday following a huge flood.

In a press release, the Alzheimer Society said a frozen sprinkler line that blew apart on Tuesday caused gallons of water to come pouring through the office's ceiling.

Emergency crews arrived on scene quickly, and workers from the Derksen Group, a major sponsor for the Society's Winnipeg Gala, arrived with trucks and rubber boots to salvage items for the auction.

The Derksen Group is also providing office space to Alzheimer Society staff for the next few days to make sure Thursday's Gala, expected to be attended by 1,000 people and budgeted to bring in $260,000, is still a success.

The Society thanked the acts of generosity it has received so far and is asking for cash donations, either online at alzheimer.mb.ca or dropped off at Derksen Plumbing and Heating at 125 Higgins Ave. METRO

2 rinks better than 1

Corydon CC. Twin-plex arena proposed for Winnipeg's Grant Park

BERNICE PONTANILLA
bernice.pontanilla@metronews.ca

The Corydon Community Centre has plans for a $15-million twin-plex at the site of the Charles A. Barbour Arena in Grant Park. BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

The president of the Corydon Community Centre believes his group has the man-advantage when it comes to their plans for the former Grant Park Arena.

Pat O'Connor said the Corydon CC's plans include building a twin-plex (two rinks) beside the Charles A. Barbour Arena on Nathaniel Street before demolishing the current single-rink facility.

"We're a long way from the final step on it, but what's exciting is we feel we have a legitimate opportunity," said O'Connor, adding their "ball park" figure for the twin-plex would be $15 million.

"There's such a demand (for ice time)."

O'Connor said the board of the Corydon CC, which is an amalgamation of the former River Heights, Crescentwood and Sir John Franklin community centres, filed an expression of interest (EOI) with the city with their vision for the arena.

In preparation for their EOI, Corydon CC board members toured facilities such as the MTS Iceplex, added O'Connor.

"It's a big project and we wanted to make sure we had an understanding of the complexities" in running a multi-ice surface facility, he said.

Coun. John Orlikow (River Heights-Fort Garry) said when it comes to the master plan for the city's arenas, he's "very supportive" of community centres running them.

"There's lots of great options, but key for me is that it's community-driven and community-run," he added.

According to the City of Winnipeg's website, in April of 2010, council approved a report entitled The City's Role in the Provision of Arenas, which solicited expressions of interest (EOI) from the private sector and community organizations for the construction and operation of new multi-pad, public-use arenas.

City officials are still working on that report and reviewing the EOIs they have received.

SMEN 1

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Canadian believed to be behind Bulgarian bus bombing: Baird

Dual citizen. Suspect in July attack lived in Lebanon, but entered with Canadian passport

A bus is moved from the airport in Burgas, Bulgaria, after an attack on vacationing Israelis last July. IMPACT PRESS GROUP FILE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

A Canadian "dual national" living in Lebanon is believed to be involved in the deadly bus bombing in Bulgaria last July, Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird confirmed Tuesday.

But key questions remained unanswered as Canada coped with the second allegation by a foreign government in recent weeks that Canadians took part in terrorist attacks abroad.

"This is not a resident of Canada. It's a dual national who I am told resides in Lebanon," Baird told a news conference on Parliament Hill.

"I couldn't even tell you the last time this person was in Canada," he said, adding that the suspect is still at large.

The figure entered Bulgaria with a Canadian passport and is believed to be linked to Hezbollah, the Shiite militant group and political party.

The attack killed five Israelis and their Bulgarian driver.

Tuesday's disclosure comes as Ottawa has yet to corroborate a claim by Algeria that at least one Canadian took part in a deadly attack on a Saharan gas plant last month.

"We've had a more robust engagement with Bulgaria, and they provided more information," said Baird. "The situation in Algeria is just completely different. We don't even have a name."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

They got their answer

British lawmakers on Tuesday voted overwhelmingly in favour of a bill to legalize same-sex marriage championed by Prime Minister David Cameron, despite strong opposition from within his Conservative Party. The bill must still pass a vote in the House of Lords. DAN KITWOOD/GETTY IMAGES

Provincial partners

Sask. premier calls Que. a 'distraction' on health council

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall says it's not surprising that Quebec has pulled out of a national health-care committee set up by the provinces.

"Quebec has been more of a distraction at this table than a constructive partner," Wall, co-chair of the committee, said Tuesday in an email to The Canadian Press.

Quebec's decision was made public Monday.

"It's a working group that established priorities not shared by the government of Quebec," said Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Alexandre Cloutier in an interview.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Terrorism

U.S. freer than thought to kill citizens abroad

An unclassified memo reveals that the Obama administration has had more lenient rules than publicly known for when drones can be launched to kill U.S. citizens working abroad with terrorists.

The government does not need evidence that a specific attack is imminent, only that the suspect is involved in plotting.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

India

Testimony begins in gang-rape trial

A special court has begun hearing testimony in the trial of five men charged with the fatal gang rape of a young woman on a moving bus in New Delhi.

Indian media reported that one of the first to testify Tuesday was the victim's male friend, who was attacked along with her on the bus.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Harvard University

Study finds racial bias in Google ads

A Harvard University study has found that there is "significant discrimination" in the way ads are placed in Google searches depending on whether a name is seen as white or black.

In fact, a black-identifying name was 25 per cent more likely to get a link advertising a search of their criminal record, according to author Prof. Latanya Sweeney. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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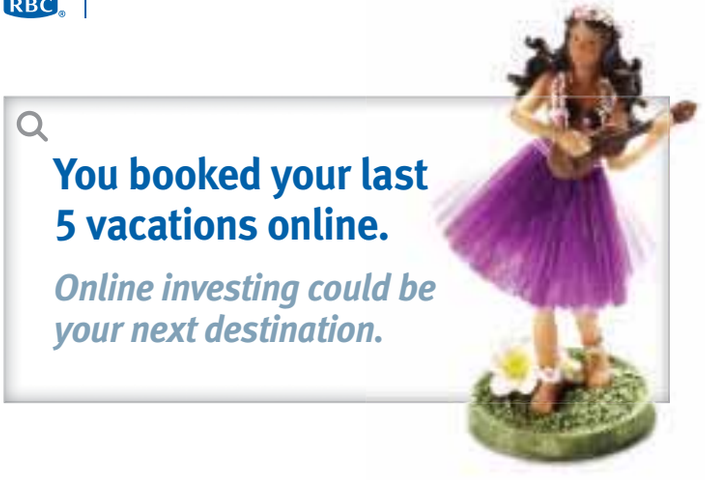

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Mexico. Six tourists raped for hours by armed gang in glitzy Acapulco resort

Six Spanish tourists were raped by a gang of armed, masked men in the Mexican resort of Acapulco, the latest chapter of violence that has tarnished the once-glamorous Pacific coast resort.

The vicious, hours-long attack occurred before dawn Monday at a house that six Spanish men, six Spanish women and a Mexican woman had rented on a quiet, idyllic stretch of beach.

The attackers gained access to the house because two of the Spaniards were in the yard and apparently forced to open the door, said Acapulco Mayor Luis Walton at a press conference late Monday.

The five attackers burst into the house and held the group at gunpoint, he said. They tied up the six men with phone cords and bathing suit straps and then raped the six Spanish women. The Mexican woman was not raped.

The once-illustrious resort has already been battered by years of drug-gang killings and extortions, but except for very few incidents, the violence has not touched tourists.

Walton said he believed, but wasn't sure, that the assailants in Monday's attack didn't belong to a drug gang.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Police look for fingerprints at the scene. BERNANDINO HERNANDEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Why did she unfriend me? Was it all the baby photos?

Facebook foes.
Online rejection hits vulnerable users hard, new study says

Clicking the "unfriend" tool on Facebook may lead to an "unfriending" in real life. KIERON MONKS/METRO WORLD NEWS

If you want to trim your list of Facebook contacts, think twice before hitting "unfriend." That person may never forgive you, according to a new academic study.

Around 40 per cent of people would avoid seeing someone in real life that had unfriended them, with a further 10 per cent unsure. A higher ratio of women said they would avoid contact than men. The study also found the likeliest determining factor for a decision to avoid was if the unfriending had been discussed with other people.

"People think social networks are just for fun," said study author Christopher Sibona, a PhD student at the University of Colorado Denver Business School. "But the study makes clear that unfriending is meaningful and has important psychological consequences for those to whom it occurs."

Social networks are especially attractive to narcissists and people with low self-esteem, but they are vulnerable. "Unfriending could damage people with anxiety and confidence issues," Dr. Gregory Webster, psychologist and social media expert of the University of Florida, told Metro. "These networks can distort reality, particularly if you don't have much of a social life in the real world."

Sibona had also researched the causes of unfriending in a 2010 study. Leading factors were "frequent, unimportant posts," such as on children or family, and controversial posts on politics or religion. But Webster believes unfriending is also for "public presentation and wanting to appear very selective about our social set."

Given the looser ties of virtual friendships, almost every user faces being unfriended at some point. If that is too much to take, Twitter may be a better choice with the milder unfollow less likely to cause trauma.

KIERON MONKS/METRO WORLD NEWS

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Decision day: Consumers finally get their paws on BlackBerry Z10

Retail debut. First day of sales doesn't match mania around iPhone launches, but numbers are 'quite robust'

There weren't any lineups around the block, but Canadians finally had a chance to get their hands on the new BlackBerry smartphone Tuesday as the device went on sale across the country.

The company behind the once-dominant phone joined with Rogers Communications to hold a media event in downtown Toronto, where a small number of customers who preordered the BlackBerry Z10 activated their devices in front of the cameras.

About 24 people showed up at the event, Rogers spokeswoman Michelle Kelly said.

But the fanfare around first day of sales paled in comparison to Apple's iPhone launches, when sometimes hundreds of people wait outside stores to be among the first to own the latest model.

"Twelve years with the same company and I haven't switched," said Joseph Santos, a professed BlackBerry loyalist, who works as an IT manager in Toronto. "Being the head of an IT department, there was a lot of pressure to go to an Android phone. I kind of fought them off. This is my last stand here."

The BlackBerry launch comes after several delays left longtime fans either sticking with their older phones or switching to a competitor's phone.

The new BlackBerry is expected to sell for around $150 on a three-year contract. Koodo is selling it without a contract for $550.

Albert Lee, a spokesman for Bell, could not provide any preliminary sales statistics, but did say the number of pre-orders the company has seen for the Z10 "were higher than any other BB (BlackBerry) before."

"We're seeing intense interest today — sales are quite robust," Lee said in an email.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Peter Rosenthal, right, talks with sales representative Dan Marsan about his new BlackBerry Z10 at a Rogers store in Montreal on Tuesday during the Canadian launch of the device. GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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J.J. ABRAMS IS A NEW HOPE FOR STAR WARS

JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

Here's an idea:

The world is a dream and the dreamer is a guy named J.J. Abrams.

If you want proof, just about everything you watch starts in the head of J.J. Abrams.

Here's just a partial list: TV: Felicity, Alias, Lost, Fringe, Person of Interest and Revolution.

Movies: Super 8, Cloverfield, Mission Impossible, the reboot of the Star Trek franchise and now the reboot of the Star Wars franchise.

Episode VII

J.J. Abrams is the Steven Spielberg AND the George Lucas of the second decade of the 21st century.

J.J. Abrams is the Steven Spielberg AND the George Lucas of the second decade of the 21st century. He's the guy who is personally responsible for keeping Luke Skywalker and Captain Kirk alive and vital.

And also keeping Hollywood alive and vital.

While other directors and producers have been overtaken by a geriatric psychosis that causes them to produce the same Bruce Willis, Sylvester Stallone or Arnold Schwarzenegger movie over and over and over again to empty theatres, Abrams is busily luring the multichannel generation back into the theatre with the consummate skills of a master showman. Not-your-father's Star Trek became relevant and sexy all over again under Abrams' direction and, not incidentally, grossed $385 million worldwide.

Disney, which paid Lucas $4 billion for the Star Wars franchise, is betting that the force remains strong with this one, and announced recently that Abrams will direct Star Wars Episode VII, which finally picks up where Luke, Han Solo, Princess Leia and all the Wookies, Ewoks and Jedi Knights left it long, long ago and far, far away, before Lucas the evil revisionist spoiled the whole thing with Jar Jar Binks.

If you don't think Jar Jar Binks was enough to bring down the franchise, you didn't read the reviews of his first appearance in Episode I: The Phantom Menace. One described Jar Jar as a "Rastafarian Stepin Fetchit on platform hoofs, crossed annoyingly with Butterfly McQueen."

It will be interesting to see if Jar Jar Binks survives to stumble again in Episode VII, which is scheduled to be released in 2015. Or thereabouts. Meanwhile, Abrams is keeping all those Mission Impossible and Star Trek balls in the air.

Not everyone is happy that J.J. Abrams has been given the keys to all their favourite franchises. The Twitterverse is buzzing: one tweeter alleges that J.J. Abrams' name is actually Jar Jar (for the record, it's Jeffrey Jacob) and another calls it "genre bogarting." But there is hope.

"As long as J.J. Abrams avoids Severe Blunt Force Trauma to the Head, these new Star Wars films will be WAY better than the last ones," says one fan who, you have to admit, has a way with 140 characters.

Speaking of franchises, I wonder if J.J. Abrams has met J.K Rowling…

J.J. Abrams may prove his critics wrong. GETTY IMAGES

The way the cookie crumbles

JOCHEN LUEBKE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Impostor strikes again

Stolen cookie sculpture found on horse's neck

German police have recovered a cookie sculpture that may have been stolen by someone impersonating the Cookie Monster.

Police spokeswoman Jacobe Heers says the 20-kilogram gilded sculpture was found Tuesday morning outside the Leibniz University in Hannover, Germany.

It was hanging from the neck of a horse sculpture with a red ribbon.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Open, Sesame

'Cookie Monster' demands donations

The century-old cookie was reported stolen last month from the office of a bakery company in Hannover.

A local newspaper later received a letter demanding cookies be delivered to children at a hospital. The paper also received a picture of someone dressed like Sesame Street's Cookie Monster holding what appeared to be the stolen cookie.

The Bahlsen company promised a reward of 52,000 packets of cookies for a charitable cause if their emblem turned up. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bahlsen CEO Werner Michael Bahlsen appealed to the extortionists to return the stolen cookie logo on Jan. 30.
JOCHEN LUEBKE/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Inset: A statue on the facade of the cookie maker before and after the sculpture was stolen. CONTRIBUTED

Bahlsen already gives

Biscuit bandit still on the lam

No suspect has been apprehended.

"I have the cookie! And you want it," the ransom note reads. "You must give all the children milk chocolate cookies on one day in February — and not dark chocolate." It's signed "Cookie Monster."

A spokesperson for the children's hospital called the prank blackmail, adding that Bahlsen already does so much for the hospital and coercion is not necessary.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Metropolitan Panel

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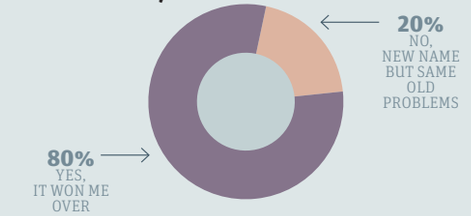
Will the BB10 save BlackBerry (formerly known as RIM)?



Twitter

@Craig_Larkins: Heading to #winnipeg on Friday ... looks like I'm bringing the warm weather with me. ;) #dontmindifido

@rhiannon_eve: Also today at superstore my total was $29.99 and I didn't get a penny back and now I just feel empty inside

@randy_duquette: Yes its cold out. Yes we live in Winnipeg. Yes you still have to work. Get over yourself and get at it!

@thewinnipegger: I swear there should be a book released just for the dumbest questions asked to bus drivers. Real winners just in Winnipeg alone

@joshuancouch: This woman is YELLING at the top of her lungs at the Tim Horton's guy because coffees went from $1.88 to $1.90 since the penny is gone...

metro

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Ceremony

Harvard honours Sutherland

Golden-Globe-winning actor Kiefer Sutherland has been named Man of the Year by Harvard University's Hasty Pudding Theatricals.

Sutherland will be roasted and receive his ceremonial pudding pot at a ceremony scheduled for Friday. The 46-year-old Sutherland has been in dozens of films but is perhaps best known for his role as Jack Bauer in the television series 24, for which he won Golden Globe and Primetime Emmy awards. He is currently starring in the television show Touch.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kiefer Sutherland. GETTY IMAGES

Showtime

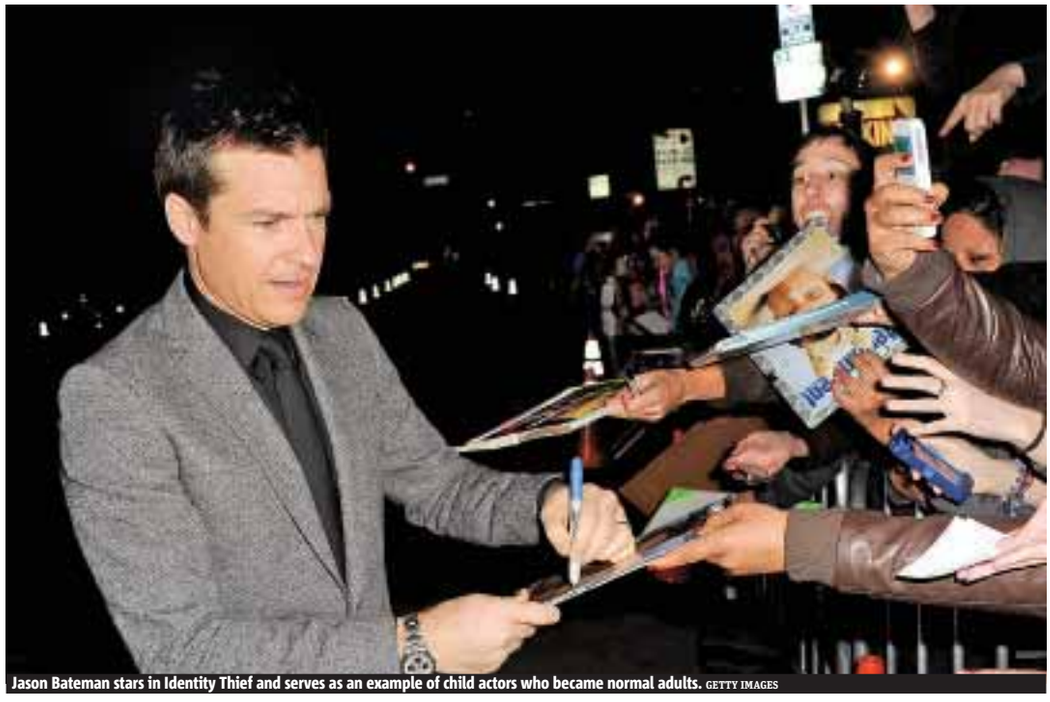
Damon to play parody of himself

Matt Damon is becoming a TV comedy regular.

Showtime said Monday that Damon will guest star next week on House of Lies. He'll play what the channel called a "maniacal megastar" version of himself.

Last month, Damon staged a mock takeover of Jimmy Kimmel's ABC talk show, tying Kimmel to a chair and acting as host for a night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Jason Bateman stars in Identity Thief and serves as an example of child actors who became normal adults. GETTY IMAGES

Finding an adult Identity

Child actors. A look at those, including Jason Bateman of Identity Thief, who bucked the trend and became successful adult actors

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

It's a pop culture cliché that all child actors grow up to become the subject of tragic tabloid stories. Sure, adulthood was not kind to Gary Coleman or Jodie Sweetin (although she does earn a point or two for the title of her tell-all, unSweetined), but there are dozens of kid actors who grew up to have fulfilling careers in Hollywood.

She's no Lindsay Lohan

"I don't know why people think child actresses in particular are screwed up."

Jodie Foster
Talking about the perception of child actors.

Jason Bateman is one of the lucky ones who made the transition to adult roles with ease. At 12 he debuted as James Ingalls on Little House on the Prairie and, dozens of credits later, this weekend stars in Identity Thief opposite comedy it-girl Melissa McCarthy.

The longevity of his career is dwarfed by Jodie Foster, whose 47 years on screen have seen her do everything from Disney movies like Freaky Friday to playing an underage prostitute in Taxi Driver to winning Oscars for The Accused and The Silence of the Lambs.

"I don't know why people think child actresses in particular are screwed up," she says. "I see kids everywhere who are totally bored. I've never been bored a day in my life."

Mickey Rooney's cameo appearance in The Muppets marked 10 decades of acting in movies. He was just a year-and-a-half old when he began performing in his parent's vaudeville act and made his first film just a few years later, playing Mickey McGuire in a series of short films. The audition breakdown requested a young boy with dark hair, so Mickey's mom rubbed burnt cork to his scalp to colour his blonde hair.

Long before Elijah Wood donned huge hairy feet and went off in search of the magical ring in Lord of the Rings, he kept busy as a child actor in movies like Internal Affairs and Radio Flyer.

It's hard to top winning an Oscar at age 11, but Anna Paquin has gone on to distinguish herself in indie hits like The Squid and The Whale and on television in True Blood. And speaking of Oscars, one of this year's best actor nominees, Joaquin Phoenix, made his debut at age eight, appearing on an episode of Seven Brides For Seven Brothers with his brother River.

"There are kids who get on a BMX bike when they're eight and they go, 'Whoa, this is incredible' and grow up to do extreme sports," he said. "It's the same for me with acting."

Highlighting their Joy, despite their Division

New book. Peter Hook's Unknown Pleasures looks at the highs and lows of the reclusive Joy Division

PAT HEALY
Metro World News

Joy Division went to great lengths to keep the public in the dark during their brief career as a band. The influential goth rock band from Manchester, U.K., trafficked in album artwork that never featured their name, much less the faces of members, and on the rare occasions they granted interviews, their answers were usually evasive or flippant. The only thing for listeners to go on was the music, similarly dark, mysterious and cold. Bassist Peter Hook wants to change all of that with his new book, Unknown Pleasures: Inside Joy Division.

"I was a little bit wary of debunking all the myths," admits Hook. "I just got sick of reading books about Joy Division by people who weren't there, and they always seem to focus on the dark and mysterious intensity of Joy Division, which is something that whilst I appreciate, I can't say that I recognize it completely."

Unknown Pleasures is rife with demystifying tales of a young band on tour for the first time. At one point singer Ian Curtis, whose brooding image would later feature heavily into goth iconography, is giggling at glimpsing a female changing backstage.

Peter Hook has decided to speak to the rumours about Joy Division in his new book, Unknown Pleasures: Inside Joy Division. GETTY IMAGES

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Selena Gomez ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Bible study group newest Hollywood hotspot?

Apparently the hottest new young Hollywood hangout isn't a nightclub but a weekly bible study group — which Selena Gomez, Vanessa Hudgens and 90210 star Matt Lanter have reportedly been attending, according to Us Weekly. Gomez has even brought ex-boyfriend Justin Bieber to the group, which meets monthly at a Beverly Hills hotel. "Justin's come in before and his mom, Pattie, is a regular," a source says. The group is reportedly organized by E! correspondent Jason Kennedy.

Justin Timberlake

Timberlake: No disrespect!

Justin Timberlake insists he in no way disrespected ex-girlfriend Britney Spears, despite reports to the contrary, according to Us Weekly. At Timberlake's first live show in five years, he kicked off Cry Me a River — his breakup anthem written after his split from Spears — by telling the crowd, "Sometimes in life, you think you found the one. But then one day you find out that she is just some bitch." After the show, though, Timberlake took to Twitter to do damage control. "Wouldn't disrespect anyone personally. Ever," he tweeted.

The Word

Wallis' puppy purses make a splash on red carpet

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

It's a very slow gossip day and honestly, if I have to write one more thing about the feud between Brandi Glanville and LeAnn Rimes, I'm going to pack up my things and move to Vermont where I will spend the rest of my days knitting and raising cattle and never reading another Us Weekly ever again. Or raising Budweiser Clydesdales. Whichever.

So, today's column will be about something totally rad and worth highlighting: The awesomeness that is Oscar nominee Quvenzhané Wallis' puppy purses.

Wallis owns 20 of the purses, designed by Poochie & Co., and they've been a mainstay on the red carpet for the nine-year-old actress. "That's my signature," she told Ellen DeGeneres about rocking the accessory time and time again. And yes, expect to see one pop up (pup up?) at the Oscars. When asked by Jay Leno on The Tonight Show who she'll be taking to the awards ceremony, she held up her puppy purse and said, "This and my mom."

Cute, right? In Hollywood, where we force our girls to grow up much too quickly, it's nice to see a little girl act like a little girl. And carry a mass-produced purse that looks like a little dog instead of, you know, Gucci. You go, Quvenzhané Wallis.

Trump sues Maher for $5 million

Donald Trump is suing Bill Maher for $5 million over a charity wager, according to E! News.

Maher reportedly agreed to donate that amount to charity if Trump could prove — by producing a birth certificate — that he was not the child of an orangutan.

Maher made the offer during a visit to The Tonight Show after Trump infamously made a similar $5 million charity donation offer to Barack Obama that was widely criticized.

Donald Trump

Twitter

@ShiaLaBeouf
how are you guys doing?

@JoshRadnor
Pretending like I don't like 'Peter, Paul, & Mary' is exhausting.

@Bitchuation
When there is a sign posted in a bar that says WE ID ALL GUESTS and they don't ID you, is that bad?

@SarahKSilverman
Oh Jesus I just woke up did Beyonce win?

Leonardo DiCaprio

Things heating up for Leo, co-star

It looks like things are heating up between Leonardo DiCaprio and his Wolf of Wall Street co-star Margot Robbie. DiCaprio was spotted getting cosy with the 22-year-old Australian actress on the balcony of his suite at a Miami hotel before heading out to play in the surf with Jonah Hill, Lukas Haas and several other women, according to E! News. The pair did little to hide their affection for each other despite the obvious paparazzi presence.

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You've been camping out in the library studying for weeks and the thought of writing one more assignment makes you want to hurl your Easy Mac 'n Cheese. Fear not! Spring break is right around the corner, and whether you long for the beach, slopes or partying like it's ... er, 2013, here's the top five hot spots crawling with students who, like you, are willing to sacrifice a few brain cells for a week of fun.

MAE BOWRING
life@metronews.ca

5 Spring break spots

VLITVINOV/FLICKR

Daytona Beach, Fla.

White sand beaches, warm weather and partying around the clock awaits students who want to let loose. The hotels cater to budget-conscious students so you can have a week of fun in the sun without dipping too much into your student loan.
Good if: You want the classic spring break experience.
Bad if: You want to feel rested when you get back.

Mont Tremblant, Que.

If you daydream in philosophy class about carving through fresh powder, then make your way to this popular ski city. Busloads of students will be doing the same, making the nightlife in the village a can't-miss during spring break. Think you'll break your neck on the slopes? Try dogsledding or tubing.
Good if: You want to cuddle up with a ski bunny at night.
Bad if: You underdress and get frostbite.

TREMBLANT PHOTOS/FLICKR

New Orleans

It's a gritty city that celebrates sin. February is Mardi Gras month and depending on when you arrive, the French Quarter will be bustling with parties so wild that you'll be repeating stories of that "amazing spring break" well into your golden years. New Orleans is a safe city as long as you stick to the highly populated areas.
Good if: You're into voodoo.
Bad if: Parades and scantily clad women scare you.

CLETCH/FLICKR

GPOO/FLICKR

Montreal

Students looking for more of a cosmopolitan experience will find it in the historically rich and charming streets of Montreal. It may not be 30 C and sunny, but there's literally hundreds of restaurants to cosy up in with some comfort food when you're not busy exploring an art gallery or boutique.
Good if: You're underage because the legal drinking age is 18.
Bad if: You hate winter.

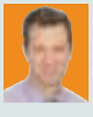
Cancun, Mexico

This list would lack credibility if it didn't include the sun and booze-soaked experience that is Cancun. The main strip has student-friendly hotels and the glorious weather makes lounging by the pool the obvious thing to do during the day. The exciting nightlife attracts people from all over North America and Cancun is safe for travellers. But like all party towns, it's wise to stay with your friends at all times.
Good if: "Tequila" is your middle name.
Bad if: You don't believe in cleanses, because your liver will need it.

JTHETZEL/FLICKR

Travel tips

On the road ... the safe way



ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie
life@metronews.ca

Worrying about personal safety is not at the top of everyone's holiday planning checklist, but one incident can ruin your vacation. Here are a few suggestions to ensure you return home safe and sound.

The public and transient nature of a hotel makes it an attractive place to commit petty crime, so be smart. If you are travelling alone, ask for a room close to the elevator.

Do not answer the door to an unexpected guest. If they claim to be a hotel employee, call the front desk to verify.

Use the Do Not Disturb sign if want strangers to think you are in-house. Ask if there is valet parking and use it.

Avoid large gatherings. Whether it is a celebration, rally or protest, pickpockets like to blend into a crowd as they search for unsuspecting tourists. If alcohol is involved and the mood gets heated, events with a mob-like mentality can escalate into a riot. Having your wallet lifted can quickly become the least of your problems.

Be wary of new friends. Without a doubt meeting people is one of the best parts of travelling, but not everyone has your best interests at heart. Keep conversations light and do not offer up any personal information, such as where you are staying or your cabin number.

Leave the bling at home. Valuable jewelry only serves to draw attention to yourself. If you absolutely need to bring that favourite ring or bracelet along, wear them only in appropriate settings and otherwise leave them in the room. Most up-scale chain hotels now offer personal safes in their guestrooms.

Avoid hitting the road. Car accidents are the number one cause of overseas injuries for travellers. Consider taking public transit when you can. If you do need to drive, follow the rules of the road and avoid night driving. The laws and cultural norms around drinking and driving are different in countries outside of North America.

Speaking of alcohol, drink responsibly. Its fine to let your hair down on vacation, but being on holiday is not a license to be loud and obnoxious.

Leave your Do Not Disturb sign up to make strangers think you're in the room. ISTOCK

Salad that packs a protein punch without meat: Hearty Grain & Quinoa

Edamame, grains and cheese ensure this unusual and refreshing salad has a main course level of protein.

1. Bring medium saucepan of water to a boil. Add edamame and corn. Reduce heat to medium; simmer 3 to 4 minutes. Drain; set aside to cool.

2. Meanwhile, gently squeeze pouch all over to break the rice apart. Tear top corners of pouch about 1/2 inch (1 cm). Place pouch, upright, in the microwave and heat on high for 1 minute and 30 seconds. Let stand in microwave 1 to 2 minutes. Caution: Pouch will be hot.

3. Carefully remove from microwave, holding sides. Pour into a bowl, stir and set aside to cool.

4. In small bowl, whisk together shallot, lemon juice, oil and pepper until combined.

5. Add edamame, corn, tomatoes and feta cheese to cooled rice mixture. Drizzle dressing over top; toss lightly to combine.

NEWS CANADA/ PC.CA

Ingredients

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes

- 1 cup (250 ml) frozen edamame
- 1 cup (250 ml) frozen corn
- 1 pkg (250 g) PC Blue Menu Whole Grain Brown Rice with Lentils and Quinoa Blend
- 1 shallot, minced
- 3 tbsp (45 ml) fresh lemon juice
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) omega oil
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) freshly ground black pepper
- 1 cup (250 ml) cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1/3 cup (75 ml) drained and crumbled light feta cheese in brine

This recipe serves four. NEWS CANADA

Drink of the Week

Tropical Peace Breeze Smoothie

Dreaming of warmer weather? Make this snack that features peaches, ginger and coconut water.

- 1 (14 oz/398 ml) can California Cling Peaches in fruit juices from concentrate
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) coconut water or plain or vanilla almond milk
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) Greek vanilla, honey or peach yogurt, preferably 0%
- 1 tsp (5 ml) vanilla
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) ginger
- 1/8 tsp (0.5 ml) nutmeg
- Honey or agave syrup

Drain peaches, reserving 2 tbsp (30 ml) juice. Place peaches, reserved peach juice, coconut water or almond milk, yogurt, vanilla, ginger and nutmeg in a blender. Blend until smooth. If you wish, sweeten with honey or agave syrup.

NEWS CANADA/ CALCLINGPEACH.CA

Lunch. Flax-Crusted Chicken, Sweet Potato and Baby Kale Salad

1. Preheat oven to 425 F (220 C).

2. Line baking sheet with parchment paper. Arrange frozen chicken on one half of baking sheet. In bowl, toss sweet potato rounds with salt and 1-1/2 tsp (7 ml) of the olive oil; arrange on other half of baking sheet. Bake in centre of oven for 30 minutes, turning chicken and sweet potato over halfway. Let cool for 5 minutes.

3. Meanwhile, in large bowl, toss together baby kale, tomatoes, cucumber, shallot, lemon juice and remaining 1-1/2 tbsp (22 ml) olive oil.

4. Slice each chicken breast into strips. Divide and arrange salad mixture, roasted sweet potatoes and chicken among four plates. Sprinkle with pepper.

NEWS CANADA/ PC.CA

Ingredients

- 3 pieces PC Blue Menu breaded chicken breast with flaxseed
- 1 medium sweet potato peeled and cut in 1/2-inch (1 cm) rounds
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) salt
- 2 tbsp (25 ml) olive oil
- 4 cups (1 l) baby kale
- 9 cherry tomatoes, halved
- 16 thin slices English cucumber (skin on)
- 1 small shallot, thinly sliced
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) fresh lemon juice
- 1/8 tsp (0.5 ml) freshly ground black pepper

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The tree of life. In this time of employment uncertainty, only you can prevent a forest industry labour shortage

CASSANDRA JOWETT
TalentEgg.ca

Feeling lost in a web of we'll-let-you-knows? Your prospects might just be looking up. ISTOCK

If you don't know much about the forest products industry and its career opportunities, no one could blame you.

It's a sector that has flown under the radar for much of the last decade, losing as many as 70,000 jobs in the wake of a stronger Canadian dollar, changes in the global economy, the increasing prevalence of digital media, and the U.S. housing market collapse and subsequent recession in 2008.

More recently, however, it seems as though the industry's fortunes are changing.

There is increased global demand for traditional Canadian wood and paper products, and the innovative new technologies being developed here are capturing the attention of people around the world.

The only thing holding it back now, though, is a looming talent shortage.

Why the forest products industry needs you

According to a report released by the Forest Products Sector Council (FPSC) in 2011, it is estimated that more than one third of the industry's aging workforce — about 50,000 people — will leave within the next 10 years.

"It's hard to imagine that we're facing labour challenges after shedding so many jobs," says Jim Farrell, Executive Director of the FPSC, but the industry's long-standing public perception and image problems, coupled with its current demographics, mean there just aren't enough people to replace all of the baby boomers who are slated to retire.

The number of young people working in the sector is at a historical low compared to the overall workforce, so it may need to hire as many as 120,000 people by the year 2020.

About one third of forest products employers say they are already making significant efforts to target youth for recruitment into the sector, with many more sure to follow.

Beyond lumber, pulp and paper

Canada's forest products sector is carving a new path for itself that goes far beyond the traditional industry staples of lumber and paper.

"There's more effort being made by companies as well as government to accelerate transformation in the industry," Farrell says. "We currently have eight research networks with 27 universities across the country."

Those research networks are developing products such as antibiotics and pharmaceuticals, biofuels and bioplastics, glues, enzymes and paints, artificial flavours and fertilizers — all derived from Canadian wood, which is a completely renewable resource.

"This is the kind of thinking that, within 10 years, could put Canada's forest products industry in a fundamentally different place than it was before," Jim says.

"We're going to need a whole bunch of smart, educated people to enter the industry."

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metro

Seeing the forest for the fables. Dispelling myths about an evolving field

Some picture the forest product industry as a major polluter, but it has, in fact, reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 60 per cent since 1990. ISTOCK

Let's face it: the forest products sector hasn't always had the best image. After all, it's difficult to think of cutting down trees as a good thing.

But while this industry could have just continued managing its bad reputation, it has instead decided to do something major about it. Last spring, the Forest Products Association of Canada (FPAC) unveiled Vision 2020, a new industry-led vision that outlines where the forest industry sees itself by the year 2020 — powering Canada's new economy by being green, innovative and open to the world.

"The industry has changed dramatically — we have gone through some really tough times, but we are shaping a new path for our future that is extremely appealing," says Catherine Cobden, Executive Vice President of FPAC.

"We have to get over the old images of the industry."

Myth: cutting down trees to make wood products is destroying our forests

Reality: forest products companies today are committed to harvesting legally, regenerating harvested trees promptly, reducing waste and recycling, and welcoming independent scrutiny. Less than one per cent of Canada's total forest area is harvested each year, and about 650 million seedlings are planted annually to ensure regeneration.

"The Canadian forest industry has more third-party certified land than anywhere else in the world by a massive margin," Cobden says. "We've fully embraced this approach of following the highest standards of sustainable forest management practices."

CASSANDRA JOWETT, TALENTEGG.CA

Smart staff

Myth: The forest industry only has jobs for uneducated, unskilled workers

- Reality: These days, working in the forest industry involves more brains than brawn.
- "Gone are the days of the lumberjacks throwing logs around or working in the wood room feeding wood into a mill," says Jim Farrell, Executive Director of the Forest Products Sector Council (FPSC).
- "People work in air-conditioned booths with computer screens and joysticks to operate high-end technology, so it's important for them to understand how this stuff actually works."

‘A woman, Métis and a bioengineer’

She’s a natural.
Baillie Redfern is learning to plant the seed of health in her community and beyond

DANIELLE LORENZ
TalentEgg.ca

When someone thinks of the forest they’re often limited to only think about the trees and the animals that live there. Baillie Redfern, a MSc student of the University of British Columbia’s Genome Science and Technology program on the other hand, sees medicines.

Having grown up as a member of the Painted Feather Woodland Métis Tribe in Ontario, Redfern discusses her education and how it relates to the forest products industry:

Can you tell me a little bit about what you’ve been studying?
I work in the field of medicinal plant genomics — specifically I work on bioproducts from balsam fir.

The living planet can bring with it curious shapes and bright colours, but it can also bring us cures. ISTOCK

Coniferous trees are a rich source of metabolites that can be used to make higher value bio-products. To address the significant market demand, there is a large scientific interest in the identification of the genes and enzymes for the production of natural products with cost effective technologies.

Prior to attending UBC, I was studying biopharmaceutical science at The University of Ottawa. While studying in Ottawa I had the opportunity to work with The Cree of Eeyou Istchee (CEI), a James Bay subpopulation of the Cree Nation, which is Canada’s largest Aboriginal group. The CEI possess a wealth of traditional ethnobotanical knowledge and continue to use medicinal plants today. I worked collaboratively with the elders and Cree Health Board to investigate traditional plants to treat diabetes.

It is estimated that 20 per cent of the Aboriginal population lives with diabetes and the prevalence of Type 2 diabetes is three to five times the national average. My research focused on the safety and efficacy of traditional medicines for treating symptoms associated with diabetes.

Collaborative effort

“The current heath-care infrastructure views modern-western practitioners, traditional healers and naturopathic doctors in opposition of one another, when in fact they all strive to bring better health to the population.”

Baillie Redfern
MSc student of the University of British Columbia’s Genome Science and Technology program

Do you feel that there is a connection to your academic work and your identity as a Métis?
Yes. However, there is not a direct connection. For example, I am not investigating which trees make the best fiddles. Rather, I am defining what it means to be Métis to myself, my family, my community and the non-Aboriginal population by participating in an untraditional field of research.

I want to show everyone that Métis culture is not dead, static or stereotypical. The Métis Peoples are diverse, strong and proud, with a history and a future. I am a woman, Métis and a bioengineer.

Where do you see yourself going after you complete your degree?
My goal is to open a health and wellness centre, which integrates modern medicine with traditional indigenous medicines. The current heath-care infrastructure views modern-western practitioners, traditional healers and naturopathic doctors in opposition of one another, when in fact they all strive to bring better health to the population. Currently, there’s a deficit in the health care system, it devalues the importance of diversity of medicinal knowledge.

I want to develop a health centre that will be the standard for health services in the 21st century. The health centre will be a place where all people can get modern medical services, with informed access to traditional medicines while experiencing a culturally respectful environment.

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The shot of Winnipeg Jets defenceman Mark Stuart gets past Florida Panthers goalie Scott Clemmensen as Jets captain Andrew Ladd jumps out of the way during second-period action at the MTS Centre on Tuesday. The Jets won 3-2 in overtime. MARIANNE HELM/GETTY IMAGES

Jets back on course in return home

NHL. Winnipeg overcomes sluggish start and falling behind twice to win in OT and end three-game slide

Bryan Little scored on the power play in overtime to lift the Winnipeg Jets to a 3-2 win over the Florida Panthers on Tuesday night.

Blake Wheeler and Mark Stuart also scored for the Jets (4-4-1).

Jonathan Huberdeau and Tomas Fleischmann scored for the Panthers (3-6-0).

The Jets came out flat in the first, giving away the puck four times and winning only one of 10 faceoffs.

They came up short on their lone power-play opportunity in the first, when Tobias Enstrom cut their two minutes down to one with a hooking call.

On their best scoring opportunity, Bryan Little's shot went high and, even though it bobbled up and around the net, linemate Andrew Ladd couldn't get control of the puck for a follow-up.

Huberdeau banged in Drew Shore's rebound at 18:12 to make it 1-0 just before the end of the first. The Panthers outshot the Jets 7-3 and Winnipeg didn't get credited with a shot until almost 14 minutes had passed.

On Tuesday

Jets	Panthers
3	2

They came on stronger in the second and Wheeler put the Jets on the board at 2:28 when he slammed a pass from Enstrom past Florida netminder Scott Clemmensen.

But Florida took the lead back less than two minutes later on Fleischmann's mirror-image shot from the point that sailed past Ondrej Pavelec.

Stuart's wrister, his first goal this season, sailed between Clemmensen's pads at 12:21 to tie it again, as the Jets outshot Florida 14-5 in the period.

The third was scoreless and neither team could capitalize on a power-play opportunity but the Jets finally made the extra man work with 16 seconds left in overtime.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CFL

Als acquire RB Messam

The Montreal Alouettes acquired running back and former CFL Outstanding Canadian Jerome Messam from the Edmonton Eskimos for a sixth-round draft pick, the CFL club announced Tuesday.

The six-foot-three 245-pound Messam was named the league's top Canadian in 2011 when he became the first non-import to rush to more than 1,000 yards since Sean Millington in 2000. He had 1,057 yards and six touchdowns on 195 carries that season.

The Brampton, Ont., native missed half of last season in a failed bid to crack the Miami Dolphins lineup, rejoining Edmonton in late August. He had 168 yards rushing and one TD over the last nine games of the season.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NFL

Ravens celebrate Super Bowl win

Baltimore celebrated with its Super Bowl champion Ravens on Tuesday, with thousands of fans in purple lining the streets of Charm City and packing the team's stadium for a party.

In the parade, retiring linebacker Ray Lewis had a position of honour at the end of the procession, flanked by a mounted police unit and officers on foot. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Baltimore Ravens linebacker Ray Lewis speaks to fans during the celebration. GAIL BURTON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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2014 Sochi Games is a great source of pride for Putin

Countdown to Olympics. President using event to showcase a prosperous Russia

One year before Russia hosts its first Winter Olympics, this Black Sea resort is a vast construction site sprawling for nearly 40 kilometres along the coast and 50 kilometres up into the mountains. After arriving at Sochi's new airport, there's no escape from the clang and clatter of the drilling, jackhammering and mixing of cement that drowns out the hum of the sea and the birdsong.

For Russia and its leadership, the 2014 Sochi Games is not just a major sports event but a point of national pride. President Vladimir Putin has made the Olympics his personal project and, determined to use them to showcase a powerful and prosperous Russia, has spared no expense to make sure the games are a success.

On Thursday, Putin will be in Sochi to preside over a lavish celebration marking the one-year countdown to the opening ceremony on Feb. 7, 2014.

The Olympic stadium, pictured on Jan. 30, is seen under construction at the Russian Black Sea resort of Sochi, with just one year until the opening ceremony of the Winter Olympics. IGOR YAKUNIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"The project is under his permanent control and we enjoy the full government support," Sochi organizing committee head Dmitry Chernyshenko said. "This really is his games because he recognizes the power of these games, the greatest-ever catalyst to accelerate positive change."

The current overall price tag for the games is $51 billion, more than four times as much as Russia estimated when it was awarded the Olympics in 2007. This would make Sochi the most expensive Olympics in history, surpassing the $40 billion that China is believed to have splashed out for the 2008 Summer Games in Beijing. For Sochi, at least half the money is coming from state coffers, with most of the rest being put forward by state-controlled companies and Russian tycoons.

The costs are high because they include extensive infrastructure development in addition to construction of the Olympic venues, almost all of which had to be built from scratch. Most of the sports venues have already been completed or will be in the next few months, while armies of workers are busy building hotels and additional Olympic facilities, including two of the three athletes' villages and the media centre.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Athlete to watch

Kershaw poised to win medal

After a near-miss in 2010, Devon Kershaw is poised to reach the Olympic podium in Sochi. He was fifth in the men's classical 50-kilometre race in Vancouver, finishing just 1.6 seconds behind gold medallist Petter Northug of Norway. Kershaw, a two-time Olympian from Sudbury, Ont., finished second overall on the World Cup circuit last year and was fourth at the 2012 Tour de Ski. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Devon Kershaw
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tennis. Raonic ready to continue his rise in 2013

Milos Raonic is one of the biggest young stars on the ATP Tour and he's riding high after anchoring Canada's recent upset win over Spain in Davis Cup play.

The future is bright for the 22-year-old right-hander from Thornhill, Ont., who currently sits at a career-high No. 13 in the world rankings. His next mission is to take the necessary steps to continue his steady growth on the ATP Tour.

It won't be easy to crack that upper echelon where the sport's elite players are rooted. The top level is filled with battle-tested veterans who are loaded with experience and seem to be a half-step ahead of the rest.

Raonic appears well-positioned to get there down the road — it seems to be just a matter of when.

"I think I'm capable of a lot of things," Raonic said Tuesday of the season ahead. "I've set my goal to make London at the year-end (championship). That would probably put me in the top eight. So all these kind of things I look forward to.

"I've just got to work one match at a time and try to keep getting better throughout the year."

Raonic is known for his booming serve and power game. But he has worked hard over the last few years to improve his return skills and net play.

No. 13 in the world Milos Raonic is best known for his booming serve.
DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

It was a more well-rounded Raonic that clinched an upset win for Canada last weekend.

In the deciding match, Raonic kept Spain's Guillermo Garcia-Lopez on his heels and was able to dictate the pace of play. Raonic still relied on his heavy serve, but also worked his opponent around the court and was aggressive with his volleys.

The straight-set victory at the University of British Columbia put Canada through to the Davis Cup World Group quarter-finals for the first time. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Skiing

Crash spells end to Vonn's season

The U.S. Ski Team says Lindsey Vonn has torn the ACL and MCL in her right knee and also has a broken bone after a horrific crash Tuesday at the world championships.

The team says Vonn will undergo surgery and will miss the rest of this season but is expected to return in time for the 2014 Sochi Olympics.

Vonn lost balance on her right leg while landing a jump, flipped over in the air and landed on her backside as she smashed through a gate before coming to a halt.

The four-time overall World Cup winner and 2010 Olympic downhill champion received medical treatment on the slope for 12 minutes before being taken by helicopter to a hospital in Schladming.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lindsey Vonn GETTY IMAGES FILE

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Pittsburgh	10	7	3	0	34	24	14
New Jersey	9	5	1	3	23	20	13
NY Islanders	9	4	4	1	29	30	9
NY Rangers	9	4	5	0	20	25	8
Philadelphia	10	4	6	0	23	27	8

NORTHEAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Boston	8	6	1	1	24	19	13
Ottawa	10	6	3	1	29	19	13
Montreal	8	6	2	0	26	17	12
Toronto	10	5	5	0	25	29	10
Buffalo	10	3	6	1	30	37	7

SOUTHEAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Tampa Bay	9	6	3	0	40	23	12
Carolina	8	4	4	0	22	24	8
Winnipeg	8	3	4	1	24	32	7
Florida	8	3	5	0	20	30	6
Washington	10	2	7	1	23	36	5

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Chicago	9	7	0	2	28	20	16
St. Louis	8	6	2	0	31	19	12
Nashville	8	3	2	3	14	20	9
Detroit	9	4	4	1	23	28	9
Columbus	10	3	6	1	20	32	7

NORTHWEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Vancouver	9	5	2	2	24	22	12
Edmonton	9	4	3	2	22	24	10
Minnesota	9	4	4	1	21	24	9
Colorado	9	4	5	0	21	23	8
Calgary	7	2	3	2	20	25	6

PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
San Jose	9	7	1	1	31	16	15
Anaheim	8	6	1	1	29	23	13
Phoenix	10	4	4	2	29	27	10
Dallas	10	4	5	1	20	25	9
Los Angeles	8	3	3	2	20	25	8

Note: A team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OL (other loss) column.

Tuesday's results
Toronto 3 Washington 2
Los Angeles 4 Columbus 2
Pittsburgh 4 NY Islanders 2
New Jersey 3 NY Rangers 1
Philadelphia 2 Tampa Bay 1
Calgary 4 Detroit 1
Ottawa 4 Buffalo 3
Florida at Winnipeg
Nashville at St. Louis
Chicago at San Jose

Monday's results
Carolina 4 Toronto 1
Dallas 3 Colorado 2
Phoenix 2 Minnesota 1
Vancouver 3 Edmonton 2 (OT)
Anaheim 2 San Jose 1

Wednesday's games — All Times Eastern
Boston at Montreal, 7:30 p.m.
Anaheim at Colorado, 9:30 p.m.
Dallas at Edmonton, 10 p.m.

Thursday's games
Florida at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Washington at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Calgary at Columbus, 7 p.m.
NY Islanders at NY Rangers, 7 p.m.
Montreal at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Carolina at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.
Toronto at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.
Los Angeles at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Detroit at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Vancouver at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Chicago at Phoenix, 9 p.m.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	Pt
Vanek, Buf	8	11	19
Stamkos, TBL	7	9	16
Marleau, SJ	9	5	14
Thornton, SJ	3	11	14
St. Louis, TBL	3	11	14
Pominville, Buf	5	8	13
Kane, Chi	4	9	13
Crosby, Phg	4	9	13
Zetterberg, Det	5	7	12
Conacher, TBL	5	7	12
Pavelski, SJ	4	8	12
Malkin, Phg	2	10	12
Couture, SJ	6	5	11
Lecavalier, TBL	4	7	11
Tavares, NYI	4	7	11
Enstrom, Win	2	9	11
Staal, Car	7	3	10
Parise, Min	6	4	10
Hossa, Chi	6	4	10
Tarasenko, STL	5	5	10
Kunitz, Phg	5	5	10
Gagner, Edm	3	7	10
Datsyuk, Det	3	7	10
Vrbata, Phx	3	7	10
Ribeiro, Wash	2	8	10
Parenteau, Col	7	2	9
Skinner, Car	5	4	9
Hodgson, Buf	5	4	9
Clarkson, NJ	5	4	9
Selanne, Ana	3	6	9
Duchene, Col	2	7	9
Koivu, Ana	2	7	9
Purcell, TBL	2	7	9
Hall, Edm	2	7	9
Shattenkirk, STL	1	8	9

Not including last night's games

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	31	14	.689	—
New York	31	15	.674	1/2
Indiana	30	19	.612	3
Chicago	29	19	.604	3 1/2
Brooklyn	28	20	.583	4 1/2
Atlanta	26	21	.553	6
Milwaukee	25	21	.543	6 1/2
Boston	24	23	.511	8
Philadelphia	21	26	.447	11
Detroit	18	31	.367	15
Toronto	**17**	**31**	**.354**	**15 1/2**
Orlando	14	34	.292	18 1/2
Cleveland	14	34	.292	18 1/2
Washington	12	35	.255	20
Charlotte	11	36	.234	21

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	38	11	.776	—
Oklahoma City	36	12	.750	1 1/2
L.A. Clippers	34	16	.680	4 1/2
Memphis	30	16	.652	6 1/2
Golden State	30	17	.638	7
Denver	30	18	.625	7 1/2
Utah	27	22	.551	11
Houston	26	23	.531	12
Portland	25	23	.521	12 1/2
L.A. Lakers	23	26	.469	15
Dallas	20	28	.417	17 1/2
Minnesota	18	27	.400	18
Sacramento	17	33	.340	21 1/2
Phoenix	16	32	.333	21 1/2
New Orleans	15	33	.313	22 1/2

Note: division leaders ranked in top three positions regardless of winning percentage.

Tuesday's results
Indiana 114 Atlanta 103
L.A. Lakers 92 Brooklyn 83
Phoenix at Memphis
Golden State at Houston
Milwaukee at Denver

Wednesday's games — All Times Eastern
L.A. Clippers at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Indiana at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Charlotte at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
New York at Washington, 7 p.m.
Boston at **Toronto**, 7 p.m.
Houston at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Memphis at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Brooklyn at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Golden State at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Phoenix at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Portland at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Utah, 9 p.m.
San Antonio at Minnesota, 9 p.m.

Thursday's games
L.A. Lakers at Boston, 8 p.m.
Chicago at Denver, 10:30 p.m.

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The 2013 Mini Paceman

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

Fuel economy

The little hatchback's fuel-consumption estimate of 7.4 l/100 km in the city and 5.7 on the highway (for the base 1.6) is impressive. Note that all Paceman engines require more expensive premium fuel that offsets some of the perceived efficiency.

It's very roomy in the trunk.

2013 Mini Paceman

- **Type.** Two-door, front-, AWD-compact hatchback
- **Engine (hp).** 1.6-litre DOHC I4 (121); 1.6-litre DOHC I4, turbocharged (181-218)
- **Transmission.** Six-speed manual; six-speed automatic (opt.)
- **Base price (incl. destination).** $28,550

Engine

Under the hood it's a case of if you've seen one Mini you've seen them all as the available engines are offered in all seven Mini body styles. The base Cooper's 1.6-litre four-cylinder makes 121 horsepower and 114 pound-feet of torque, while the optional turbo-charged 1.6 in the Cooper S ups those numbers to 181/177.

Design

The tough-dude front end design of the Paceman includes a grille that makes the vehicle look as though it's frowning at the world, but it surely gives it character. Other distinctive characteristics encompass teardrop-shaped tail lights and rear fenders bulge out slightly from the quarter panels.

Review. Somehow Mini found yet another niche

MALCOLM GUNN
Wheelbase Media

They might all, literally, be Mini, but BMW's Britain-based division is expanding in a big way. The latest edition is the Paceman, which is a two-door hatchback (based on the Countryman four-door model) that arrives this spring.

Where the Countryman appears as a conservatively styled wagon, the Paceman's sportier looks hint at its more playful nature around town, on the open road, or over rougher terrain with its available all-wheel-drive. You would think the Paceman's sloping roofline and liftgate would adversely affect stowage space.

Surprisingly, that's not the case, with the Paceman surrendering only about six per cent volume with the rear seats in place and about eight per cent when they're folded flat.

The interior includes four adjustable bucket seats — also adapted from the Countryman — that are especially attractive.

Of course the Mini's signature round dash gauges are very much in evidence, although not quite as in-your-face as those installed in the basic Mini Cooper or Mini Clubman. Rumour has it the next-generation Mini will adopt a more conventional layout, which would likely be a step in the right direction.

What is decidedly non-conventional is the Paceman's illuminated centre-rail floor console to which you can attach a cellphone base, cup holders, sunglasses case and other accessories. And it also comes equipped with the usual gadgets and extras.

The Paceman's unique mix of sporty style and practicality, with an available side order of rough-road ruggedness, makes it perhaps the best reason yet to consider parking a Mini in your driveway.

The interior is simple, futuristic and comes with the signature round gauges.

There are four adjustable bucket seats inside.

By comparison

1 LR Evoque Coupe
Base price: $62,900

2 Volkswagen GTI
Base price: $30,750

3 VolvoC30
Base price: $30,600

A gadget-enhanced driving experience

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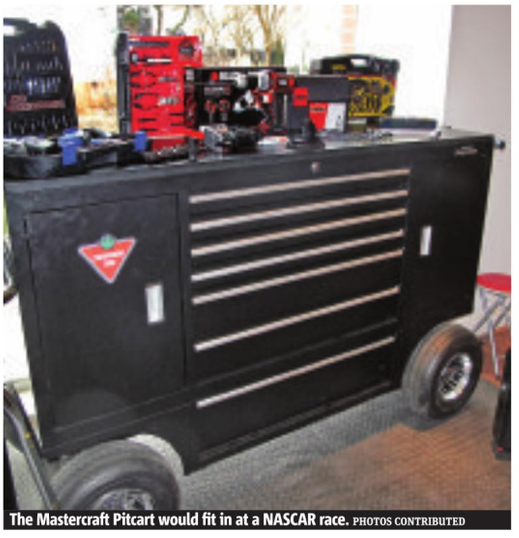

The Mastercraft Pitcart would fit in at a NASCAR race. PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

It's a time-honoured tradition: improving and personalizing your vehicle through gadgets.

The tradition was founded, one could argue, with the Ford Model T.

"A Ford was born naked as a baby, and a flourishing industry grew up out of correcting its rare deficiencies and combating its fascinating diseases," wrote E.B. White of the Model T, in his famous essay, Farewell My Lovely, first published in the May 16, 1936 edition of The New Yorker.

He began his essay by lamenting the new Sears Roebuck catalogue, which by that point only had one page devoted to Model T accessories and parts. This was in contrast to the "spring times when the Ford gadget section was larger than men's clothing, almost as large as household furnishings."

Of course, back in those days, a Model T gadget could be something like a rear view mirror, a foot accelerator to replace the standard hand accelerator, or a tire patch kit. According to White, every Model T owner back then "was capable of putting on a patch, expected to, and did have to."

Now we're expected to be drinking coffee and responding to text messages while driving.

In fact, Fiat's European division has come up with the world's first in-car espresso maker. Fiat 500L buyers in Europe can order this maker directly from Fiat. It slides into the centre console and makes nice, hot espresso whenever you want, as long as the 500L is in park. It doesn't look like we'll get it in North America. We still don't get a lot of the interesting and sporting vehicle and powertrain options the Europeans get — now we have to add portable espresso machines to the off-limits list. Damn you old world power.

But just as well, as there are lots of other new gadgets that need our attention.

I recently attended Canadian Tire's press event, highlighting some of its new automotive products for the upcoming spring season. A lot of car cleaning and man-cave garage type stuff. A lot of electronic stuff.

My favourite garage/tool item is the Mastercraft Pitcart — a huge toolbox on wheels worthy of a NASCAR team.

But nothing says gadget like an electronic gadget. Electronic gadgets that further connectivity, safety, navigation, entertainment, etc., are exploding in number these days.

Mandi Paquin-Johnson, Canadian Tire's car category buyer, told us that the Yada Digital Baby Camera/Monitor is one of the bigger electronic gadget hits over the last year. The monitor mounts on the front dash, so you never have to swivel your head to see how junior's doing in the backseat. "Everyone who's tried one loves it," says Paquin-Johnson.

Because the electronic industry moves faster than the automotive industry, I don't think there will ever be a shortage of such new gadgets that people will want to incorporate into their driving experiences. This should ensure that the gadget tradition would continue to thrive, even though cars no longer come from the factory, as the Model T once did, "naked as a baby."

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See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Horoscopes

Aries
March 21 - April 20
You have been extremely active mentally of late and your mind could probably use a rest. Try to treat yourself more gently over the next 24 hours. Even an Aries needs a break once in a while.

Taurus
April 21 - May 21
The most important thing now is that you don't change your aims unless you are certain it's the right thing to do. It is better to finish what you started, even if your passion for it is not what it once was.

Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Mercury, your ruler, joins forces with Neptune, planet of imagination, so you are sure to come up with some ideas. Whether they can do something for you remains to be seen. Never stop thinking.

Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Watch what you say today because you don't want to let slip information that others have no right to know — and which they can use against you. Be wary of people who try to talk to you about personal matters.

Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Your judgment could be a bit off target today, so be careful if someone approaches you with a plan to make money. It could be they are genuine but unless you are sure it might be wise to give it a miss.

Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Even if you are the sort of Virgo who is good at disguising feelings, you will still be a bit emotional today. Remember, it's not that others have upset you which matters but how you choose to react.

Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
If you act on impulse today, you could make a serious mistake. Then you will have to take foolish risks to try to cover up that mistake and before you know it, everything will be falling apart. Don't do it!

Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You will get plenty of advice from well-meaning people today, but deep down you already know what needs to be done. Stop wasting time discussing the issue and start doing the things that will change your life.

Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Some things are important and some things are not. Do you know which is which? No matter how much your career means to you, it is your home life you need to focus on over the next few days.

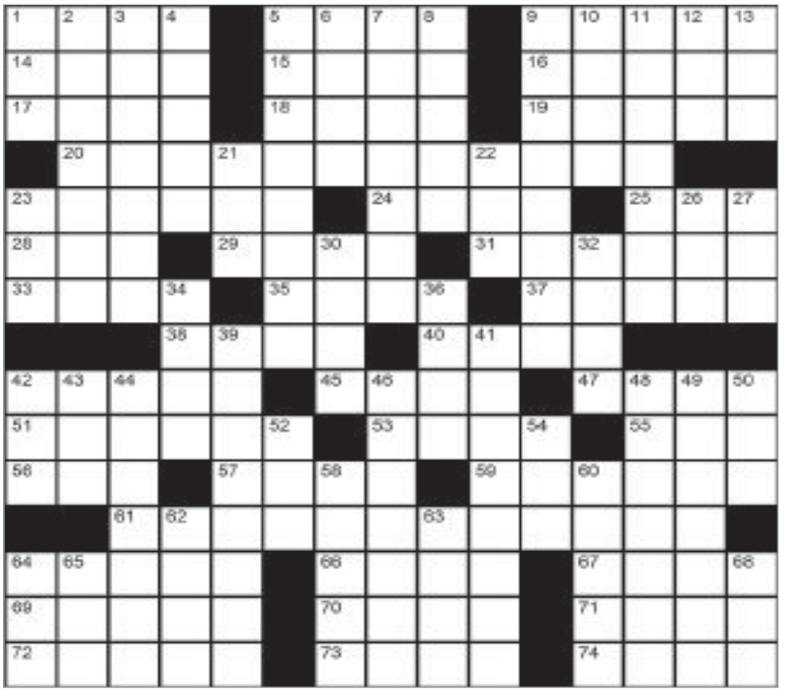
Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You will be rather controversial in some of the things you say over the next 24 hours, so don't be surprised if people get upset. Be that as it may, you have a duty to tell the truth as you see it.

Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You may be having second thoughts about a project of some kind but if you pull out now you could lose a lot of money. Can you afford it? Also, can you afford what it might do to your reputation?

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Neptune, your ruling planet, is strong in your chart today, which means you know exactly what needs to be done. But do you have the courage to do it? If you do you will make rapid progress. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

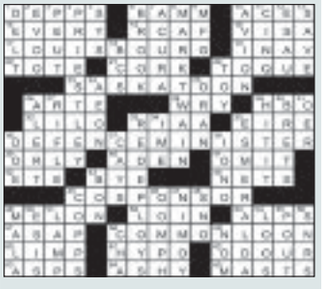
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Dot-__ (Web businesses)
5. Pelletier's skating partner
9. Calf-length pant
14. Take __ the waist, as alterations: 2 wds.
15. Do needlework
16. Utilize a crane
17. Designer Ms. Wang
18. __ _ fever (Ailed)
19. Smallest litter puppies
20. Mick E. Moose is this team's mascot: 2 wds.
23. Maple Leafs great Mr. Clark
24. Carnivore's craving
25. Energy unit
28. "__ Haw"
29. Jazz singer Ms. Fitzgerald
31. Dotted-line endorser
33. Gumbo ingredient
35. Long times
37. Foodie
38. Australian rock group
40. "Woodstock" gr.
42. "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" spin-off
45. Ginger cookie
47. Consequently
51. Angel
53. Mr. Clapton
55. 'Ranch' suffix
56. Director Mr. Lee
57. Air freshener brand
59. Toronto's __ Phillips Square
61. New Brunswick, e.g.: 2 wds.
64. Paul McCartney song: "__ __ Was Lonely"
66. Jai __ (Court game)
67. Nons opposites
69. Allied beachhead site in Italy in WWII
70. Confined
71. One being taken advantage of
72. Country singer Ms. Rimes
73. 'Henn' ender (Canadian actress Jill)
74. Quiz

Down
1. Caesar's 104
2. Seven days: 2 wds.
3. Seafarer
4. "__ by Me" (1986)
5. Dubstep artist whose real name is Sonny Moore
6. Take _ __ (Rest)
7. Offensive __ (Football position)
8. Story, in a house, in French
9. 20th Prime Minister, Jean __
10. August: French
11. Canadian actor Gordon
12. After-Q queue
13. "__ Too Late" by Carole King
21. Maiden name indicator
22. Affirmatives, in Austria
23. Five Ws, just one
26. British R&B singer, Des'__
27. Munich's locale [abbr.]
30. Sports defeat
32. Music legend Marvin
34. Verdi opera
36. Incision leftover
39. __ Bonaparte
41. Michael J. Fox series: 2 wds.
42. Cape Town's home [acronym]
43. She-chicken
44. Wedding dress material
46. Sugarland singer Jennifer
48. Find new lodgings for
49. Some sauces
50. Suffix with 'Ball'
52. Mount __ (Sacred mountain in China)
54. Pen part
58. Severus __ ('Harry Potter' books character)
60. Freshwater fish
62. Identical
63. 'Christ' suffix (Some religious people)
64. Seasickness, __ de mer
65. Suffix with 'Meth'
68. Fixed

Yesterday's Crossword



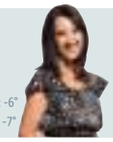
Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

3				6				1
	5				4	7	3	
	6		2	1				
	4					5		
8		9				2		4
		2					7	
				8	9		4	
	2	4	6				8	
9				7				3

Yesterday's Sudoku

Weather



BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

JENNA KHAN
WEATHER SPECIALIST
"Weather impacts everything we do. Providing the information you need before you head out that door and take on the day is the best part of my morning." **WEEKDAYS 6 AM**

feeling pucky?

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